
[Staff] Quality of Life Committee - Report to the Assembly

1 message

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Thu, Sep 8, 2011 at 3:24 PM

To: weekend <weekend@shimer.edu>, weekday <weekday@shimer.edu>, staff@lists.shimer.edu

Shimerians -

Since the April 10th Assembly meeting, QLC has held five general meetings and participated in committee meetings related to Shimer Days, the Lecture & Performing Arts Series, and Red Dance. A number of off-campus trips were sponsored during the summer months to Chicago cultural events. The first two Community Tuesdays for 2011-12 have been held with strong participation. The Community Tuesday schedule has been planned through October 11th; the newly elected QLC membership will assume planning for the remainder of the semester.

Working with Alumni Relations, other Shimer departments & programs, and various IIT and VanderCook offices, QLC has organized a strong framework for campus programming this year. Dates for fall and spring Orange Horse (Nov. 12, 2011 and March 17, 2012) and Solidarity (Dec. 3, 2011 and April 21, 2012) have been set. The second annual Shimer Days week is scheduled for Oct. 10 -15. QLC is pleased to co-sponsor the 2011-12 Lecture and Performing Arts Series and is enthusiastic in its support of the schedule of speakers and theatre events which was recently announced; we hope to see many community members at the first lecture next Friday, Sept. 16th at 7 pm in the MTCC McCloska Auditorium featuring Dr. James Donovan speaking on Dark Matter, Dark Energy, Physics, and Beauty. QLC is extremely excited about the joint fundraising Red Dance with IIT and VanderCook which will be held in the Hermann Hall Ballroom on Friday, Oct. 21st benefiting the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

QLC responsibly and judiciously managed its limited programming budget for 2010-11. The budget for 2011-12 is currently being finalized based on enrollment figures. The newly elected QLC membership will develop an operating budget at its first organizational meeting once elected on Sept. 11th. Regarding election of new members, QLC has requested an increase in size from seven to ten members to support the greater interest in committee participation as well the larger amount of programming being offered on-campus. This request will be considered at the Sept. 11th Assembly meeting.

Student interest inventories have been collected from the entering new students and returning students are asked to complete updated inventories by Wed., Sept. 14th. Information obtained from this year's results will be used to make additional programming decisions for the coming academic year. In the first two weeks of the semester, QLC has received a number programming suggestions from community members including an off-campus trip proposal to the Chicago Botanic Garden, student involvement in a variety of community service projects, and several health & fitness initiatives. The faculty have approached QLC about Shimer students hosting the 2014 Association of Core Texts and Colleges (ACTC) conference. The current QLC membership is supportive of the proposal and will hold a student forum in the next two weeks to gauge additional student support and perspective.

In closing, I wish to recognize the significant contributions of committee members Bev Thurber, Bryan Maddox, Landis Masnor, Netiya Shiner, SaraLouise Dawson, and Trillian Bergmann who individually and collectively have coordinated and presented an extremely diverse, expansive, and well-attended programming schedule during 2010-11. In particular, Bev, Landis, and Trillian complete two years of committee service at the end of this term. During the past year, the QLC membership and its dedicated volunteer members have substantially grown the level and amount of programming being offered to the Shimer community. I am proud of their contributions and achievements. As a committee, QLC wishes to additionally recognize the individual contributions of Pablo Otavalo, Grey Litaker, Alex Rosenberg, Dorian Gomberg, and Alex Colston who made possible a variety of QLC programming activities during the past year.

Respectfully,

B David Galt, QLC Chair

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